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**Control Number:** 423311800

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**Job Title:** Life Scientist/Environmental Engineer/Physical Scientist

**Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency

**Job Announcement Number:** LV-R9-DE-2016-0004

**SALARY RANGE:**

\$57,302.00 to \$74,489.00 / Per Year

**OPEN PERIOD:**

Monday, December 14, 2015 to Monday, December 28, 2015

**SERIES & GRADE:**

GS-0401/0819/1301-09

**POSITION INFORMATION:**

Full-time - Permanent

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:**

12

**DUTY LOCATIONS:**FEW vacancies - San Francisco, CA [View Map](#)**WHO MAY APPLY:**

Any U.S. citizen may apply.

**SECURITY CLEARANCE:**

Public Trust - Background Investigation

**SUPERVISORY STATUS:**

No

**JOB SUMMARY:**About the Agency (<http://www.epa.gov>)

Earth Day is every day at EPA! Come help us protect the environment! Our diverse workforce connects to more than just a career-we share a common passion to promote a cleaner, healthier environment. Discover how exciting safeguarding our natural resources and protecting human health can be. We consistently rank as one of the top Federal agencies in which to work, with great benefits and work flexibilities. Find yourself at EPA.

This position is located with Region 9, Air Division, Permits Office in San Francisco, CA. For more information on this office, visit their website: <http://www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-9-pacific-southwest> (<http://www2.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-9-pacific-southwest>).

This position is an interdisciplinary position which may be filled under any of the following titles and occupational series, depending on the qualifications of the applicant and needs of the agency:

- Life Scientist, GS-0401
- Environmental Engineer, GS-0819
- Physical Scientist, GS-1301

**TRAVEL REQUIRED**

- Occasional Travel
- Temporary duty travel may be required 1-5 days per month.

## **RELOCATION AUTHORIZED**

- No

## **KEY REQUIREMENTS**

- You must be a U.S. citizen.
- If you are selected, a pre-employment background check is required.
- You must submit resume and required documents. (See How to Apply)
- Position has educational/degree requirements. (See Qualifications Section)
- All applicants must submit transcripts/course listings.

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## **DUTIES:**

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At the entry level of this position, you will:

- Provide technical and administrative assistance to states, tribes and group members on the development and implementation of programs related to federal, state, and tribal operating permit programs under Title V of the Clean Air Act, New Source Review, and other Clean Air Act related programs.
- Review and evaluate applications for air pollution operating and pre-construction permits, and draft/propose permits, developed by states and tribes for conformance with Clean Air Act requirements and Agency policy and guidance.
- Work closely with states and tribes in the development, review and implementation of their operating permit and New Source Review permit legislation, regulations, and programs.
- Respond to calls, written inquiries, and Freedom of Information Act requests from states, tribes, industry and the public regarding provisions of the Clean Air Act pertaining to permitting and stationary sources.
- Provide technical and administrative program assistance to local, state, tribal and federal agencies, including regulated communities, on permit guidelines and policies, technical literature pertaining to control technology, and prior operating permit program decisions.

When entering a Federal job at a grade level lower than the highest promotion potential level, you may be promoted to more complex duties and work more independently, as your career progresses.

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**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**[Back to top \(Top of Page\)](#)

You need a degree or combination of education and experience as described below to qualify for this position.

**Life Scientist, GS-0401:** You must meet paragraph A or B to meet the basic educational requirement for this occupational series:

A. Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or a related discipline appropriate to this position.

-OR-

B. Appropriate combination of education and experience with courses equivalent to a major in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or a related discipline appropriate to this position.

**Environmental Engineer, GS-0819:** You must meet paragraph A or B to meet the basic educational requirement for this occupational series:

A. Possess a degree in professional engineering from a school of engineering with at least one or more curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or possess a degree in professional engineering that included differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress strain relationships); (c) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

-OR-

B. Appropriate combination of education and experience--college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished: (1) a thorough knowledge of physical and mathematical sciences underlying professional engineering, and (2) a good understanding,

both theoretical and practical, of engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following: 1) Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico; or 2) Evidence of having successfully passed the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) examination or the written test required for professional registration, which is administered by the Boards of Engineering Examiners in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico; or 3) Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences and in engineering that included the courses specified in paragraph A. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of a professional engineering curriculum as described in paragraph A; or 4) Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in engineering technology or appropriate professional field (e.g., physics, chemistry, architecture, computer science, mathematics, hydrology, or geology) provided the applicant has 1 year professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance.

**Physical Scientist, GS-1301:** You must meet paragraph A or B to meet the basic educational requirement for this occupational series:

A. Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in physical science, engineering, or mathematics. This coursework must have included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics.

-OR-

B. Appropriate combination of education and experience with courses equivalent to a major in physical science, engineering, or mathematics that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics.

**Additional Qualification Requirement:** In addition to meeting at least one of the basic educational requirements listed above, you must have at least one year of specialized experience related to this position as described below.

To qualify for the GS-09 level, you must have at least one year of full time experience

equivalent to the GS-07 level defined as: 1) reviewing and interpreting air permitting program federal requirements; and 2) providing technical advice and/or guidance to various audiences on environmental regulations and/or programs; -OR- 2 full years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a master's degree or master's or equivalent graduate degree in an academic discipline directly related to this position; -OR- an appropriate combination of successfully completed graduate level education and specialized experience.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.

Your answers to the on-line assessment will be used to evaluate your competencies in the following areas:

- Knowledge of environmental regulations and policies pertaining to the Clean Air Act.
- Knowledge of Clean Air Act permitting practices, principles, and guidelines.
- Skill in reviewing and/or evaluating air pollution permit applications.
- Skill in communicating technical and non-technical information to various audiences in writing.
- Skill in orally communicating technical and non-technical information to various audiences.

If you are selected, you must complete a one year probationary period.

This position is designated as Moderate Risk and requires a background investigation. Unless an appropriate background investigation is already on record with the Office of Personnel Management, you must undergo a background investigation.

#### **HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED:**

We will review your resume and required documents to ensure you meet the basic qualification requirements. Your resume must address the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed in the Qualifications Section. If you meet basic qualification requirements, your application will be further evaluated based on your answers to the on-line assessment. Your

responses to the on-line assessment will be used to measure the degree to which your background matches the requirements for the position. You are being evaluated under the category rating method which means, if you are determined to be qualified, you will be placed into the Best Qualified, Well Qualified, or Qualified Category.

We will compare your resume and supporting documentation to your responses on the assessment questionnaire. If you rate yourself higher than is supported by your application materials, your responses may be adjusted and/or you may be excluded from consideration for this job. We will evaluate your qualifications and eligibility and notify you if you meet minimum qualification requirements.

NOTE: We do not require a separate statement responding to the competencies, also referred to as Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs). However, your resume should clearly show possession of these competencies.

**To preview questions please click here (<https://jobs.mgsapps.monster.com/epa/vacancy/previewVacancyQuestions.hms?orgId=1&jnum=59742>).**

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**BENEFITS:**

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You can review our benefits at: [https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Pay\\_and\\_Benefits](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Pay_and_Benefits).  
([https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Pay\\_and\\_Benefits](https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Pay_and_Benefits).)

Join EPA in protecting human health and the environment and enjoy many work life quality options! Working for the EPA offers you a comprehensive benefits package that includes, in part, paid vacation, sick leave, holidays, life insurance, health benefits, and participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System. To learn more about us, visit Life and Careers at EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/careers/>).

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

This position has portable work and selectee may be eligible to telework.

This position is in the bargaining unit.

One or more positions may be filled.

Are you a Displaced Federal Employee? If so, please read the Required Documents and visit the EPA website for additional information: [http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_require-](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_require-)

ments.htm ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

As part of the application process, you are required to submit college transcripts or a list of courses as described in the Required Documents section of this announcement. However, if you are selected, you must provide official educational transcripts before you start work with EPA. More information on verification of education can be found here:

[http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm) ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

EPA participates in e-Verify. E-Verify is an Internet based system operated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA) that enables participating employers to electronically verify the employment eligibility of their newly hired employees. For additional information: [http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm) ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

This information is used to determine your qualifications for employment. The use of this information is authorized under Title 5 USC, Sections 3302 and 3361.

If you are selected, travel, transportation, and relocation expenses will not be paid by EPA. Any travel, transportation, and relocation expenses associated with reporting to work in this position will be your responsibility.

If you have part-time work experience, read this: [http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm) ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

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## **HOW TO APPLY:**

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You are strongly encouraged to read the entire announcement before you submit your application for this position.

To begin the application process, click the Apply On-line button to the right on this screen, follow the prompts to log-in/register, submit all required documents, and complete the assessment questionnaire. To be considered, you must submit a complete application package by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date of this announcement.

All required supporting documents will be collected electronically via the USA Jobs



document portfolio feature.

If you cannot apply on-line, you must contact the Human Resources Office listed to the right for assistance no later than three business days prior to the closing date of this announcement. You must provide complete application materials by the closing date of this announcement.

For detailed instructions to assist you in ensuring your application package is received, go to: [http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm) ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:**

Documents to be submitted on-line:

--Resume clearly stating your experience related to this position as described in the Duties Section and Qualifications Required Section. In describing your experience, you need to be clear and specific. We may not make assumptions regarding your experience.

--Responses to the on-line assessment questionnaire.

--College transcripts - required to submit either unofficial transcripts or a list of courses that includes school(s) attended, school address, course title, grades earned, completion dates, department, and quarter or semester hours earned.


--Veterans' Preference Documents - DD-214 Member 4 copy, VA Letter, and SF-15, if applicable; active duty military submit statement of service from commanding officer documenting dates of active duty and any campaign medals/badges; include character of service.


--Displaced Federal employees under ICTAP/CTAP - copy of your most recent performance appraisal, proof of eligibility, and your most current SF-50 noting position, grade level, tenure, and duty station.


Additional information can be found on our web site: [http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm) ([http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy\\_requirements.htm](http://epa.gov/ohr/ezhire/vacancy_requirements.htm)).

### **AGENCY CONTACT INFO:**

Dominique Sandoval

Phone: 702-798-2401 

Fax: 702-798-2433 

TDD: 702-798-2421 

Email: [TeamVegas@epa.gov](mailto:TeamVegas@epa.gov)

Agency Information:

Environmental Protection Agency

US Environmental Protection Agency


Human Resources Management Division

4220 S. Maryland Parkway, Building A, Suite 100

Las Vegas, NV

89119-7528

US

Fax: 702-798-2433 

**WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT:**

You can track the progress of your application package via your USAJobs account. You will receive an acknowledgement from USAJobs that your submission was successful, once we have received your on-line occupational questionnaire, resume and any supporting documentation. You will be notified of the status of your application via your USAJobs Account after we conduct a qualification review of your complete application package. You will be contacted if further evaluation or interviews are required. Any exaggeration of your experience, false statements, or attempt to conceal information may disqualify you for employment consideration. We may verify all information you provide in your resume and questionnaire responses, through reference and/or background check, and/or verification of your education. If you are selected, you will be contacted personally by the human resources office posting this announcement.

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[FOIA \(http://www.opm.gov/efoia/\)](http://www.opm.gov/efoia/)

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This is a United States [Office of Personnel Management \(http://www.opm.gov/\)](http://www.opm.gov/) website.

USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official one-stop source for federal jobs and employment information.